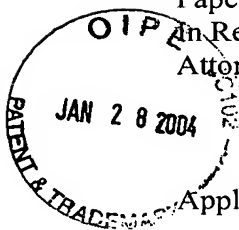


Application No. 10/041,115

Paper Dated: January 26, 2004

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of September 26, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 2204-012023



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TC 1700

Application No. : 10/041,115

Applicants : Junichi KATSUKI, et al.

Filed : January 8, 2002

Title : AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEEL LESS SUSCEPTIBLE
TO CRACKING DURING FORMING AND A
MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

Group Art Unit : 1742

Confirmation No. : 4472

Examiner : Deborah Yee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 26, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Petition for Extension of Time and requisite fee are submitted concurrently herewith.

Amendments to the claims are reflected and listed on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 3.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 26, 2004.

Michelle Pichora
(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Michelle Pichora
Signature

01/26/2004
Date